



STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1700 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, PHOENIX, AZ 85007

MAIN PHONE: 602-542-4331
FACSIMILE: 602-542-7601

April 25, 2006

The Honorable Ken Bennett
President
Arizona State Senate
1700 West Washington Street
Senate Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Senate Bill 1217: public health services district

Dear President Bennett:

Today I vetoed Senate Bill 1217, which would have eliminated the ability of County Boards of Supervisors to establish public health services districts by unanimous vote of the board.

There is no need for this change. Counties have exercised their current authority in a responsible fashion. Eliminating the flexibility of counties to establish public health districts without having to hold potentially expensive elections is not in the best interest of the state and could unduly limit a county's ability to respond to a crisis. If county voters disagree with a unanimous vote of a County Board of Supervisors, they can either vote for new supervisors at the next regularly scheduled election or in some cases have the matter sent to the ballot through the referendum process.

For these and other reasons, I am vetoing Senate Bill 1217.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Napolitano".

Janet Napolitano
Governor

JN:TN/jm

cc: The Honorable Jim Weiers
The Honorable Dean Martin